

NEW YORK HERALD.

JAMES GORDON BENNETT,
EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

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AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING.

BROADWAY THEATRE. Broadway, near Broom's
Street.—SOLAR SHIRAZ—LIVE INDIAN.LUCY RUSHTON'S NEW YORK THEATRE, Nos. 728
and 730 Broadway.—THE BLACK DOG—BETWEEN YOU
AND ME AND THE POET.WOOD'S THEATRE, Broadway, opposite the St. Nicholas
Hotel.—THE FORTY-THREE—GLASS AT NEW YORK—LIVE
INDIAN. Matinee at One O'Clock.GEORGE CHRISTY'S MINSTRELS.—The Old School
of Minstrelsy. BALLADS, MARCHES, &c. at the Fifth
Avenue Opera House, Nos. 2 and 4 West Twenty-fourth st.SAN FRANCISCO MINSTRELS, 22 Broadway, opposite
Metropolitan Hotel.—SINGING, DANCING, &c.—
ITALIAN AIRS BY NATIVE ARTISTS.TONY PASTOR'S OPERA HOUSE, 20 Bowery.—SING-
ING, DANCING, &c.—THE MOUNTAIN DAVID.
Matinee at One O'Clock.BRYANT'S MINSTRELS, Mechanic's Hall, 472 Broad-
way.—DAN BRYANT'S NEW STYRE—NORCO COMICALS,
BURLINGAME, &c.—THE HALL-A LONE BROTHERS.HOOVER'S OPERA HOUSE, Brooklyn.—EUROPEAN MIN-
STRELS.—SINGING, DANCING, &c.—FANTASTICS.NEW YORK MUSEUM OF ANATOMY, 415 Broadway.—
Open from 10 A. M. to 10 P. M.CLINTON HALL, Astor Place.—POPULAR BALLAD CON-
CERT BY J. R. THOMAS AND OTHERS.LECTURE ON "NEW AMERICA"—By Rev. JOHN
RUSSELL, at the Astor Church, Brooklyn, E. D.DODWORTH HALL, 805 Broadway.—RECI-TATION, with
VOCAL ILLUSTRATIONS, BY MRS. HENRY C. WATSON.

New York, Wednesday, February 7, 1866.

NEWSPAPER CIRCULATION.

Receipts of Sales of the New York Daily
Newspapers.

| Name of Paper | Year Ending May 1, 1865. |
|---------------|-----------------------------|
| HERALD | \$1,095,000 |
| Times | 568,150 |
| Tribune | 252,000 |
| Evening Post | 169,427 |
| World | 100,000 |
| Sun | 151,079 |
| Express | 90,548 |

New York Herald—\$1,095,000.
Times, Tribune, World and Sun combined—\$71,339

THE NEWS.

EUROPE.

The Cunard freight steamship Palestine, from Liver-
pool on the 23d of January, which arrived unexpectedly
at Boston yesterday, brings important news in antici-
pation of the usual European mail ships.At the opening of the French Corps Legislatif on the
23d of January the Emperor Napoleon announced
that arrangements were being made for the with-
drawal of the French troops from Mexico, adding
a hope that this would pacify the people of the United
States. The Emperor further remarked that this coun-
try was invited to join the Mexican expedition, and ex-
pressed an opinion that such a line of conduct would not
have been opposed to our interests.Though this imperial announcement had been to a
large extent anticipated, on its being made public the
market in London for American securities opened
strongly at an advance, but closed easier.

CONGRESS.

In the Senate, yesterday, petitions asking universal suf-
frage and a reduction of the tax on agricultural imple-
ments were presented. A bill authorizing the appoint-
ment of a minister to the Dominican republic was re-
ported by the Foreign Relations Committee. The Com-
mittee on Commerce, at their request, were relieved
from further consideration of the proposition to build a
custom house and post office at Topeka, Kansas, at an
expense of one hundred thousand dollars. The Judi-
ciary Committee were instructed to report on the expedi-
ency of making provision to pay loyal citizens of the
rebellious States for quartermaster stores taken from
them for the army during the war. The consideration
of the proposed representation basis amend-
ment to the constitution adopted by the House was re-
sumed from the previous day, and Mr. Doolittle offered
a substitute, basing Congressional representation on the
number of voters, instead of on population, as provided
by the House measure. Mr. Sumner then continued his
speech in opposition to the amendment and in favor of
his proposition to effect the object which it aimed at by a
simple act of Congress abolishing all color and class dis-
crimination in regard to qualifications of voters. His
remarks occupied the remainder of the open session.
An executive session was held, during which several
nominations of the President were confirmed, including
that of General Fitz Henry Warren as Minister Resident
to Guatemala.The House of Representatives proceedings were im-
portant, embracing the passage of the Freedmen's Im-
portant bill. The report of Mr. Samuel S. Hayes, of the
Internal Revenue Commission, upon the property in the
funds, the financial system, &c., was presented by the
Speaker and referred to the Ways and Means Committee.
A bill providing for publication of notices of mail lettings
was introduced and referred. The Senate resolution of
thanks to Vice Admiral Farragut and his officers and
men was reported from the Naval Committee. The an-
nual Fortification Appropriation bill was reported from
the Appropriations Committee and referred to the Com-
mittee of the Whole. Instructions were given to the
Naval Committee to report on the propriety of
providing for the admission of soldiers to the
Naval Academy up to the age of twenty-one, and to
the Committee on Public Buildings to take suitable ac-
tion in regard to certain scandalous mutilations of the
Capitol which have recently been perpetrated, the Speak-
er stating that swords and other portions of the orna-
mentation on the bronze doors had been carried away.
The bill enlarging the powers of the Freedmen's Bureau
was then taken up for final action. An amendment ex-
cluding Kentucky from the field of the Bureau's opera-
tions, and a complete substitute of a radical character
offered by Mr. Stevens were first considered, and both
were rejected by very decisive votes, after which the
substitute for the Senate bill reported by the Committee
on Freedmen's Affairs was voted on and passed by one
hundred and thirty-seven yeas to thirty-three nays. It
is nearly identical with the bill for the same purpose
which has passed in the Senate, but differs from the lat-
ter in extending the Bureau's jurisdiction over freedmen
and refugees in all parts of the country, reducing officers'
salaries, providing for giving other lands, at the end of
three years, to the negroes settled by General Sherman
on South Carolina and Georgia coast plantations, and in
some few other respects. Subsequent to the passage of
the bill a sharp personal controversy took place between
General Sherman, of Kentucky, and Mr. Grinnell, of
Iowa, the latter charging that the former, by language
used in opposing this measure, had degraded the
white race and uttered a sentiment unworthy of an
American officer, and the General pronouncing the
assertion a "false, foul slander." The House also
passed the bill giving assent to the transfer of Berkeley and Jefferson counties from Vir-
ginia to West Virginia. A very brief evening session was
held, its entire proceedings consisting of a short harbor
improvement project by one of the members.The House Military Committee have agreed to report
the bill creating the office of full general in the army,
with an increase of pay of one hundred and thirty dollars
per month over that of the Lieutenant General. This
bill military position has never yet had an existence in
our army, and, if it should be established, General Grant
will, of course, be the first incumbent.

THE LEGISLATURE.

The State Senate is now in session yesterday was again
rather unproductive, though some matters of interest
received attention. The bill to tax the banking franchise
was reported from committee. Notice was given of billsproviding for the reduction of the capital stock of bank-
ing associations, and to increase the annual payments on
the shares of the Society Library of this city and to au-
thorize its trustees to commute their annual dues.
Among a few bills passed were those extending to the
1st of April the time for the collection of taxes
throughout the State, excepting in cities
where they are collected under special law, and
incorporating the New York City Mission and
Tract Society. The bill requiring keepers of saloons
boarding houses in this city to be licensed was ordered
to third reading. A resolution was adopted requesting
our City Chamberlain to furnish a report of the average
amount of public money in his keeping during the year
1864 and 1865, and the amount of interest received on it.
The Assembly did not even take the Senate. It also
passed the bill extending the time for the collection of
taxes and ordered to a third reading that to prevent the
manufacture and sale of slung shot and other dangerous
weapons. The bill to amend the act for the incorpora-
tion of life and health insurance companies was de-
feated.A caucus of the republican members of the Assembly
was held last night for the purpose of marking out the
course of action to be pursued by them on the Metro-
politan Health bill, which has already passed in the
Senate. After much discussion it was agreed, by a vote
of sixty-three to eleven, that the bill should be amended
by making the Health Commission consist of five mem-
bers, to be appointed by the Governor, three of them to
be physicians, one of whom shall reside in Brooklyn.

THE CITY.

Rumors prevailed in the city yesterday to the effect that
the United States sloop-of-war Brooklyn had been wrecked
at sea, and that all hands on board had been lost. Ru-
mors subsequently had it that it was the Monongahela
which had been lost. There is not the slightest founda-
tion for the report in either shape, and no news of dis-
aster to either vessel has been received in this city, at
the Brooklyn Navy Yard or at the Navy Department in
Washington.When the case of the government against Benjamin J.
Fabian, Reginald Chauncy and William Chase Barney
was called on yesterday, Judge Shipman addressed coun-
sel, and said that, after mature deliberation upon the
novel and important points that had been raised on the
part of the defense, no other course was left him, than
to reject the request for a continuance, but to order the ques-
tion of the indictments. The indictments being quashed,
the defendants were therefore discharged.The following persons were yesterday arraigned before
Judge Shipman, in the United States Circuit Court:—
Leopold Solomon, charged with embezzling letters, and
pleaded not guilty. John Goff, George Forester and John
C. Quinn, charged with passing counterfeit currency,
pleaded not guilty. Judson C. Piers was put upon trial
charged with having committed fractional currency in his
possession with intent to pass the same.Dr. Fordyce Barker yesterday brought an action in
the Supreme Court, Part 2, before Judge Ingraham,
against Dean Richmond, for alleged professional services
to the latter's daughter. The amount claimed was five
hundred dollars, with interest; for which judgment was
awarded, no defense being set up. It was stated, how-
ever, during the trial, that the reason why Mr. Barker
had entered into a special agreement to cure the lady, which
he failed in doing. Plaintiff contradicted this statement
in his evidence.An action for libel has been commenced in the Su-
preme Court, by Elias Hale, a travelling commission
agent for sale of paraffine varnish, against George S.
Fure, of this city, who manufactures the article in
question. The alleged libel consists in the publication
in Philadelphia papers of an advertisement charged to be
injurious to plaintiff's business. The case is still on.S. B. Schieffelin and others yesterday brought an
action in the Superior Court, before Judge Barber,
against Beth R. Robbins, to recover \$2,294.75, the value
of a quantity of petroleum destroyed by an explosion on
board a lighter, the defendant's property. The defend-
ant, in a counter action, claims from Schieffelin & Co.
\$3,500, the value of the lighter. The case is still on.The Grand Jury of the Court of Oyer and Terminer
found an indictment yesterday against Richard T. Col-
burn, of the Tribune, for an alleged libel upon Mr. A. T.
Stewart, published in the Missouri Republican. It is ex-
pected that Mr. Colburn will plead to the indictment this
morning at that court.Cornelius Egan and Michael Magrath were yesterday
sentenced by Judge G. G. Barnard, in the Court of Oyer
and Terminer, to one month's imprisonment each in the
Penitentiary on Blackwell's Island, for an assault and
battery upon Edward Colgrove, a police officer, while in
the execution of his duty. Charles Marshall, who pleaded
guilty of burglary in the third degree, was ordered to be
imprisoned in the Penitentiary for twelve months and
to pay a fine of one hundred dollars.Judge Brady, of the Court of Common Pleas, yesterday
decided, in the case of Noelle and others, the Prussians
alleged to have embezzled funds belonging to the bank-
ing house of Meyer & Co., of Berlin, that the accused
must still be retained in prison, to await the result of fur-
ther legal proceedings.F. Wagner yesterday brought an action in the Marine
Court against his former employer, J. P. Gruber, to re-
cover damages for alleged malicious prosecution. The
complaint was that defendant had the plaintiff arrested,
imprisoned and held to bail on a charge which was not
substantiated. The jury rendered a verdict in favor of
the plaintiff for fifty dollars.In the Court of General Sessions yesterday, Charles H.
Smith was convicted of robbery in the first degree, hav-
ing assaulted James A. Meany in Bloeker street on the
night of the 15th of January and stolen a diamond pin,
watch and chain, and seventeen dollars in money. The
sentence was postponed till Monday. Francis Duffy, who
burglariously entered the residence of Charles King, in
West Sixteenth street, was sent to the State Prison for
five years. A number of other cases were disposed of by
the Court and jury.Henry Coates, one of the alleged robbers of the National
Bank of Wellington, Ohio, arrived in this city yesterday
on board the steamship Albatross, from Charleston, in
charge of an officer, en route to Ohio to stand his trial.At the meeting of the Brooklyn Board of Aldermen on
last Monday night a resolution was adopted directing
the Committee on Schools to investigate the charges pre-
ferred against Mr. Van Epps, Superintendent of the
Truist House, of criminal conduct towards female
inmates.The first term of the Kings County Court of Sessions
commenced yesterday morning before Judge Dikeman
and Justices Hoyt and Voorhes. The criminal calendar
is very large.The following named persons were arraigned before
the City Court of Brooklyn yesterday and pleaded
guilty, whereupon the Court pronounced sentence upon
them:—William Smith, burglary, State Prison five years
and six months; Owen McNally and John Duffy (boys),
petit larceny, House of Refuge; Patrick Bulger, grand
larceny, House of Refuge; George Sturges and William
Corbett, grand larceny, State Prison three years.There is yet no deterioration in the quality of the
skating, which now for many days has been of the most
excellent kind. The Park and all the suburban ponds
were yesterday, as usual, again crowded by happy
throng.At a special meeting of the Chamber of Commerce held
yesterday afternoon resolutions were unanimously
adopted endorsing the new Metropolitan Health bill
passed by our State Senate last week, and urging its
early passage by the Assembly, without amendments.The first of a series of four lectures on national sub-
jects was delivered last evening in the Brooklyn Acad-
emy of Music by Carl Schurz.A two story frame stable, belonging to Daniel Butler,
in Fourth street, Brooklyn, E. D., was destroyed by fire
yesterday morning, and six horses were burned to death.
The total loss is about four thousand dollars.The fine steamer Morris Castle, commanded by the
experienced Captain Adams, belonging to Spofford,
Tilston & Co.'s line, will sail to-day at three o'clock
P. M. for Havana, from Pier No. 4 North river. The
malls will close at the Post Office at half-past one
o'clock P. M.The stock market opened steady, became weak and
closed strong yesterday. Governments were steady,
but dull. Gold closed at 120 1/2 a 120 3/4.There was no improvement in trade circles yesterday,
the decline in gold having exerted a depressing influence
in most departments. Cotton was dull and nominal.
Groceries were steady. Petroleum was unchanged. On
Chicago flour was without decided change. Wheat was
firm. Corn was dull and lower. Pork was active and
firmer. Lard was firmer. Whiskey was dull and
nominal.The market for beef cattle was firmer this week, owing
to a falling off in the receipts. Prices varied all the way
from 10 to 12 1/2 cents per pound, so to quality. The sales
were not at all a slight advance. Much corn was
sold at irregular prices, ranging from 4 1/2 to 5 1/2 cents. Vails
are steady at 1 1/2 a 1 3/4, so to quality. Sheep and lambs
are rather lower, owing to frequent receipts. Pricesvaried from \$4.50 to \$10 a \$12. Hogs were steady at
10 1/2 a 10 3/4. The total receipts were 4,948 hogs,
83 cows, 368 veals, 23,642 sheep and lambs and 12,400
hogs.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The democrats of Connecticut and New Hampshire
met in convention for the purpose of nominating candi-
dates for Governors and other State officers to-day.
Elections take place in New Hampshire on the 13th of
March, and in Connecticut on the 24 of April.General Grant has issued an order revoking all previous
orders requiring transportation to be furnished to fur-
loughed soldiers.The Secretary of the Treasury has issued a circular
describing the regulations adopted and the places ap-
pointed for the redemption of mutilated fractional cur-
rency and Treasury notes, the substance of which will
be found in our Washington telegraphic news.An interesting case, the merits of which are well
understood by the HERALD readers who have perused the
exceedingly entertaining letters from the wine districts
of France which have lately been published in our
columns, has just been disposed of by the United States
Supreme Court. It is that regarding the seizure
by the customs officers at San Francisco, on the ground
of undervaluation of invoice on the part of the manufac-
turer, of a considerable quantity of champagne shipped to that port from Rheims,
France. Our tariff laws require that wines shall be in-
voiced at their market value at the place of manufac-
ture; but the claimants, in defence of the low valuation
put on the cargo in question, claim that there is no
fixed market value for the wine in Rheims. The govern-
ment regarded this as a poor response, and the Supreme
Court has reaffirmed the decision of the court below,
condemning the cargo. This decision settles other simi-
lar cases, which involve large amounts of money and
considerable losses to French wine merchants.Resolutions were unanimously adopted by both houses
of the Virginia Legislature yesterday cordially approv-
ing the policy of President Johnson, acquiescing in the
results of the late war, including the destruction of
slavery, and declaring that Virginia has no intention
again to violate her pledged faith with the nation, and
that representations put forth to this effect are criminal
and cruel. The legislators, however, take occasion to
take a little bit of State rights doctrine on the tail of the
series, to the effect that "Virginia will not voluntarily
consent to change the adjustment of political power as
fixed by the constitution of the United States."The New York State Temperance Association met in
convention at Syracuse yesterday. The attendance of
delegates was not very large.The State Medical Society met in Albany yesterday,
over one hundred and fifty members and delegates being
present. A resolution endorsing the Metropolitan
Health bill, as passed by the State Senate, was intro-
duced.The New York State Workingmen's Assembly con-
vened in Albany yesterday, the attendance being large.
One of the delegates gave notice that he should to-day
offer a proposition that on the 10th of next month all
trade associations throughout the State shall strike for
the eight hour system.A terrific tornado passed over the village of Newbern,
Georgia, on the 24th ult., leveling houses, fences and
trees, and sweeping before it in an instant everything
in its path, and killing four and injuring about a dozen
persons.A boiler in the mill of the Mechanics' Manufacturing
Company, at Petersburg, Va., exploded on Friday last,
shattering the building and killing four of the employes
and wounding ten of them.The extensive paper mill at St. Charles, Illinois, said to
be the largest in the West, was destroyed by fire on last
Sunday night, entailing a loss of one hundred and ten
thousand dollars.The French Evacuation of Mexico—Napoleon's
Greatest Achievement.The steamship Palestine, which arrived at
Boston yesterday, brought the important intelli-
gence that the Emperor Napoleon, in his
speech at the opening of the French Corps
Legislatif, on the 23d of January, announced
his intention to withdraw the French troops
from Mexico. The Palestine being merely a
freight ship—bringing no press advices or
papers—we are left pretty much in the dark as
to the full significance to be attached to this
announcement. It seems clear, however, that
the French troops are to be withdrawn, and
the tone of our Paris correspondence for some
time past, taken in connection with the sig-
nificant articles which have lately appeared
in the Paris semi-official press, render it in
the highest degree probable that the evacuation
will take place at no very distant date.This last action of the Emperor Napoleon's
stamps him as a great man. It requires
greatness to boldly meet an emergency
of this kind. Napoleon went into Mexico
for the purpose of protecting the Latin race
and preventing the overshadowing influence
of the United States on this continent. He
went there to build up an immense French
colonial empire. His letter to Marshal Forey
plainly sets forth these intentions. It was sup-
posed that we were broken up, and France, like
all the other nations of Europe, was scrambling
for her chance. The other Powers backed out
before they got too far involved, but Napoleon
held on, and thereby, as was recently said in
London, placed himself in a most painful
dilemma. The French people are very sensi-
tive with regard to the national honor; and
although there has always been a large party
in France opposed to the Mexican expedition,
yet when the national honor is touched the
French are apt to unite and to sink all personal
predilections for their country's welfare and
glory.But Napoleon saw exactly the situation.
He has done in Mexico precisely as he did in
the Crimea, precisely as he did in Italy. As
soon as he had gained his point in Russia he
made peace. The instant he had gone far
enough in the Italian war he signed the
treaty of Villafranca. In each of these move-
ments he carried out the idea he has always
held that it is necessary for his dynasty, not to
smash everything, as his uncle did, trusting to
his genius to reconstruct them, but to go a
certain distance, form alliances and cement
them. And if these advances are to be credited,
he has developed this idea to a much wiser ex-
tent. He has boldly taken hold of this Mexi-
can matter, in deference to the public opinion
of the United States, in deference to the great
Power that now exists in this republic, and he
withdraws his troops from Mexico. By so
doing he has renewed the old ties of friend-
ship that have so long existed between
this country and France. Americans admire
moral courage as well as they do physical
pluck, and they will forgive the French Em-
peror much that he has done in the past for the
boldness with which he has met this question,
and retired from his untenable position. We
will now, doubtless, carry out in full the Napo-leonic idea which has hitherto actuated his
policy, and, having gone as far as it suits
him to go, will form a new alliance with us
and cement it by a commercial treaty, thus
contributing, as far as any European Power can
contribute, to our national development.The withdrawal of the French troops from
Mexico is, of course, only the natural result of
the collapse of our rebellion. But it is not
every monarch that knows when to back out.
Napoleon does. It is not every monarch who
would have the pluck to do it. Napoleon has
shown that he possesses this important element
in the ruler of a great nation.The Late Manifesto of Thaddeus Stevens—
The Capture Between the Radicals and
the President.The late remarkable speech of Thaddeus
Stevens in the House of Representatives we
publish this morning in full, because it may be
regarded as a party manifesto, marking a new
chapter in the political history of the United
States. His constitutional amendment from the
Joint Committee on Reconstruction, debarring
from the enumeration of the people of the
States for Congressional representation all
persons of any race or color with regard to
which there may be any denial or abridgment
by State laws of the right of suffrage, we con-
tend, is, at best, but a superfluity, inasmuch as
the constitution with the amendment abolishing
and prohibiting slavery, gives to Congress all
the powers required for the enforcement of the
civil and political rights of the blacks.But suffrage to the blacks is not the object
of Stevens. He says so. He wants it withheld
from them four or five years longer; because
if granted to them now on a footing of equality,
the whole black population will be counted
on the basis for Southern representation, and
what then? Why then, says Stevens, speaking
of the Southern States, "Their eighty-three
votes (in Congress), with the representatives
of the Five Points, and other dark corners,
would be sufficient to overthrow the friends of
progress here, and this nation would be in the
hands of secessionists at the very next
Congressional election, and at the very next
Presidential election." This is where the
shoe pinches, and so, to prevent the Southern
negroes being counted for Congressional rep-
resentation, Stevens says, "Give the States
concerned the power to deny the blacks the suf-
frage, and they will do it; but let them, for our
paramount object is to keep possession of the
government."Senator Sumner, however, the radical leader
at the other end of the Capitol, does not like
this constitutional amendment. He considers
it "another compromise of human rights." He
says it is like the crab, it goes backwards.
He thinks "the time has come at last when all
compromises of human rights should cease." He
recalls from this project of Stevens', of
making still further a constitutional con-
venience of the negro for party purposes. Sum-
ner is for enforcing the equality which now
exists in the constitution. That leading radical
journal—representing the clergy of the
school of Cheever, Beecher & Co.—the Inde-
pendent, sides with Sumner, and, protesting
against this amendment, says, "It puts the
negro into the hands of the rebels," and then
follows the question, "What right, either by
law of God or man, have our eight million
enemies (the whites) in the South to dictate
the rights of our four million friends (the
blacks)?" "The slave emancipated shall be
the citizen enfranchised," is the edict of the
Independent and of Sumner. With this issue
presented against Stevens we can hardly tell
just yet what the radicals of the Senate will
do with his constitutional amendment. Be-
tween "human rights" and party tactics there
is a gap wide and deep enough to swallow up
both factions.This, however, is comparatively a small
affair. The special importance which we
attach to this speech of Stevens belongs to it
as a party manifesto against President Johnson
and his restoration policy. Stevens, tired of
false pretences, plainly speaks his mind. He
is disgusted with the policy set up "at the other
end of the avenue." He sneers at the Presi-
dent's constitutional suggestions, fair and rea-
sonable though they are. Stevens does not
want them—they are usurpations, involving a
violation of the privileges of the House, and
"made in such a way that, centuries ago, had
it been made to Parliament by a British
king, it would have cost him his head." But
still, as the two houses of this Con-
gress, in the opinion of Stevens, can get
on very well without the Executive, they
can afford in his case to be "tolerant of usurpation."
The plan of Stevens, accordingly, is to
ignore the Executive, and that Congress shall
do its work of reconstruction regardless of what
he may recommend or disapprove.This is the issue between the radicals of Con-
gress and the administration. The policy on
the one side is Southern exclusion for party
purposes; on the other, Southern restoration in
view of the "general welfare." Among the
radicals, negro suffrage, "human rights," and all
such preaching is mere by-play, and constitu-
tional amendments are but cunning devices for
gaining time, so as to fix upon the Southern
States plausible excuses for their exclusion
from Congress and our national politics, and
in order to maintain over them the rigors of a
military discipline. The radical game is the
exclusion of the Southern States, not only from
this Congress but from the next, and the Presi-
dential election of 1868, and for the simple
purpose of retaining possession of the government
and its power, spoils and plunder. In this view
we have to consider the danger of the main-
tenance for two years longer of the Southern
States under military control. The danger is
that this military control may wholly super-
sede the civil functions of the government, and
rapidly carry us, North and South, under the
rule of a military despotism.In open rebellion the exclusion of the South-
ern States from our national affairs worked so
advantageously to the Northern radicals that
their game is, the continued exclusion of the
South at all hazards. Hence this radical man-
ifesto of Stevens against President Johnson. The
issue is made up. The war against him has
commenced. The elections of next fall for the
next Congress will determine whether we are
hereafter to live under a military despotism of
financial rulers, or under the government
which the administration is so slightly labor-
ing to subvert and to restore to the whole
country and to all races and colors under the
constitution of equality as it now stands. This
is the issue which settles none of all pec-ties should now prepare to meet, with the ap-
peal which will be made from this Congress to
the people of the Northern States in their next
Congressional elections.Tax on Government Bonds—Sinking
Fund and Inequalities of the Present
System.We have received the report of one of
the members of the special Revenue Com-
mission, which has been sent into Congress, recom-
mending the establishment of a sinking fund
for the payment of the national debt. It is pro-
posed to raise a fund for this purpose by levy-
ing a tax of one per cent upon the par value of
the United States bonds. In presenting this
scheme for the consideration of Congress the
amount and character of our national debt is
reviewed, together with the amount of interest
and a comparison of its value in gold and cur-
rency. It is also claimed that the laws of Con-
gress exempting government bonds from taxa-
tion only apply to State and municipal taxes,
and that the provisions of those laws do not
in the least preclude Congress from providing
for a tax on all bonds issued under authority of
that body. There is no doubt but that this is
the correct interpretation of the law; in fact,
Congress has already established a precedent
by requiring the payment of a specified amount
on the income received from these bonds.The Commissioner also reviews the resources
of the country and its capacity to bear the
enormous burdens placed upon it by our late
struggle for existence. The real and personal
property of the country is estimated to be, in-
clusive of the national securities, eighteen
thousand millions of dollars, or upwards of fif-
teen thousand millions, exclusive of the
bonds. With this amount of wealth as a basis
for raising a revenue, the argument is deduced
that it is necessary that there should be an
equality in levying the tax to meet the obliga-
tions of the government, or a privileged class
will spring up which will endanger the very
existence of our republican institutions. All
classes of property, with the exception of United
States bonds, are now called upon to pay their
portion of State and local taxes. This class of
taxes has become quite heavy, and increased
at an alarming rate during the war. If, then,
the United States bonds are exempt from local
taxation, there seems to be no just reason why
they should not contribute toward the final
payment of the debt of which they are a
part. The testimony in favor of that policy
of a number of capitalists, bondholders and
bankers, is given in full, which is one of the
most interesting portions of the report. The
facts thus presented are worthy of the candid
consideration of Congress, and the present is
the favorable period to take action in the mat-
ter. The change which is now going on in the
commercial and business interests of the country
requires a modification of the Internal Revenue
laws in order that they may be adapted to this
new order of things. This is necessary to pre-
vent irritation and jealousy of interests all
over the land. There is, therefore, no better
time to readjust the whole question of taxation,
and arrange it so that the burden will fall on
all alike, than the present.The evils of inequality in the apportionment
of taxes, and the danger which threatens us
in exempting one class of capital from all taxa-
tion, is very clearly depicted in this report. The
power which monopolies will obtain in the
political affairs of the country, as well as the
direct tendency to revolution on the one hand,
or the establishment of a privileged class, which
will reduce the laboring portion of the com-
munity to mere slaves, is shown to be the
logical result of exempting any particular kind
of property from the burden of our debt. There
is no telling the evils that may be forced upon
us unless a timely remedy is applied. Whether
the system recommended by Mr. Hayes on
behalf of the Revenue Commission, and his
bill for its practical application, is the best plan
that can be devised to prevent this evil, we
leave it to Congress to determine. But it must
be apparent to every observing mind that
some important changes in our revenue
system must be made either in the
laws or their application, or both. The
public will not long submit to a system under
which one-third of the tax is never paid, nor
will they rest contented when they come to
realize that Wall street speculators and other
capitalists can go to Washington and get them-
selves relieved from the payment of their
portion of the tax, as is now the case. We
have heretofore shown how the brokers have
managed to secure an order preventing the
enforcement of the Revenue laws on their
business, but that is not the only instance of
special intercession and success of moneyed
men and corporations. The danger which Mr.
Hayes sees in the distance in regard to mon-
opolies is already upon us. There is a striking
illustration of this fact in the action of the
Union Ferry Company of Brooklyn. This com-
pany has managed to evade the payment of its
just tax, and, by sending its counsel to Con-
gress, is now staving off the enforcement of
the law, and thus depriving the government of
thirty thousand dollars of revenue now over-
due. If one company can do this, how long
will it be before every organization of the kind
in the country will secure the same thing, and
thus place the whole burden of our taxes upon
the middle classes and the industrial interests?The Revenue Law of 1865 requires that any
person, firm, company or corporation owning
or possessing, or having the care or manage-
ment of any railroad, ferry, toll-bridge or road,
shall pay a tax of three per cent on the gross
receipts. The Union Ferry Company under-
took to evade this tax, and the question was
brought to the attention of the Secretary of the
Treasury, who at once decided that the afore-
said corporation could not escape it, and that
the law must be enforced. All of a sudden the
managers of that company resorted to the
dodge of the payment of a few dollars as a ton-
nage tax, which they claimed they could elect to
do, under the Revenue law, and thus managed
to get rid of the just tax. This in turn was de-
cided against them, but by some hocus pocus
arrangement they have managed to obtain an
order from some source, countermmanding all
this, the same as the brokers have done. The
result